

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 03795 271548Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 SSM-05 IO-13 AID-05 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00
/101 W
-----280935Z 083693 /23

R 271352Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6378
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3795

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IS, JO, EG, PFOR
SUBJECT: EZER WEIZMAN INTERVIEW ON ISRAEL AND THE ARABS

1. THE ARAB AFFAIRS REPORTER FOR HAARETZ, YEHUDA LITANI, REPORTED MAY 27 ON AN INTERVIEW HE HAD WITH EZER WEIZMAN, LIKUD'S LIKELY DEFENSE MINISTER. WEIZMAN SPOKE OF THE NEXT GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES TOWARD THE ARABS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND ALSO REGARDING ISRAEL'S HALF MILLION ARAB CITIZENS. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE LITANI ARTICLE.

BEGIN TEXT

2. THE LIKUD CANDIDATE FOR DEFENSE MINISTER, EZER WEIZMAN, TOLD THIS PAPER'S REPORTER THAT THE JORDAN BRIDGES WILL REMAIN OPEN AND THAT HE SUPPORTS THE OPENING OF SIMILAR BRIDGES WITH LEBANON AND EGYPT.
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3. MR. WEIZMAN FURTHER STATED THAT HE WAS OPPOSED TO THE OUTLAWING OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN ISRAEL, AND THAT HE WAS IN FAVOR OF FREEDOM OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF ISRAEL, INCLUDING THE TERRITORIES, SO LONG AS SUCH ACTIVITY DID NOT AFFECT THE SECURITY OF THE STATE.

4. ON THE ISSUE OF FUNDS RECEIVED BY TOWNS ON THE WEST BANK FROM "TWIN CITIES" IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES, MR. WEIZMAN SAID THAT HE HAD NO OBJECTION SO LONG AS THIS MONEY WAS DESTINED TO FILL CONSTRUCTIVE PURPOSES. HE ADDED THAT IT COULD DEFINITELY BE SAID THAT ISRAEL'S ARABS WOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO A MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND THAT IT WAS HIS INTENTION OF CONSULTING WITH THE ARABS, EVEN WITH THE MOST EXTREMIST OF THEM, ON THE QUESTION OF THE TERRITORIES AND ISREL'S ARABS. HE STRESSED THAT HE SUPPORTED THE IKRIT AND BIR'AM RESIDENTS RETURNING TO THEIR VILLAGES, HAVING REMAINED LOYAL TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL FROM 1948 UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME.

5. THIS REPORTER ADDS THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE WITH THE PRESENT POLICY IN THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES AND IN EAST JERUSALEM IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO INTER-FAITH RELATIONS, PRAYER TIMES IN THE MAHPELA CAVE AND BANNING JEWS FROM PRAYING ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT. END TEXT.

LEWIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Sent Date: 27-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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